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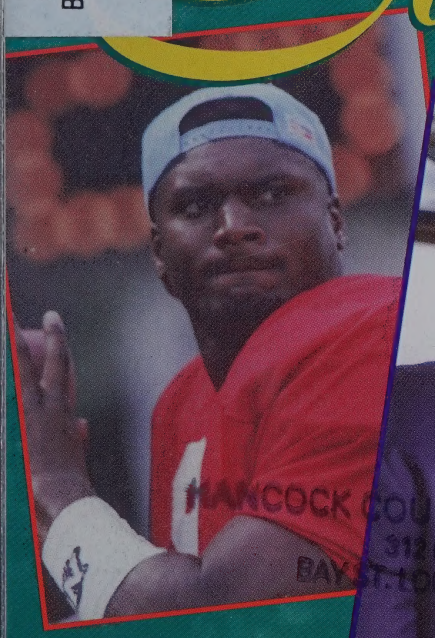

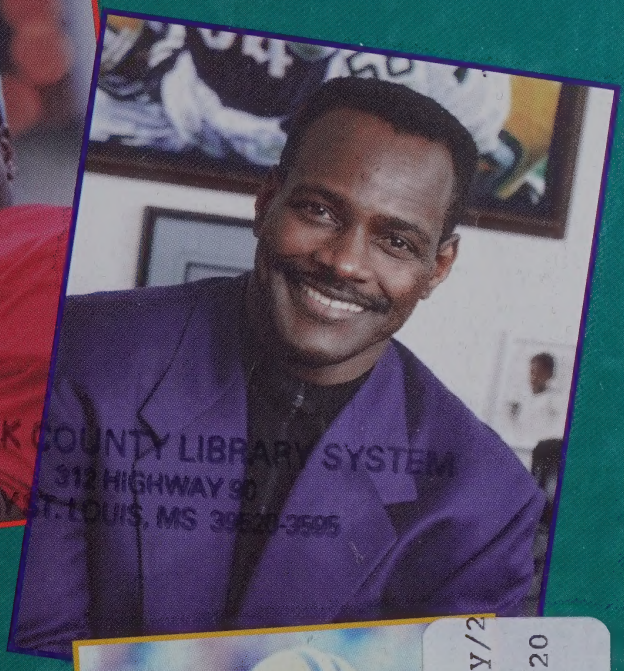

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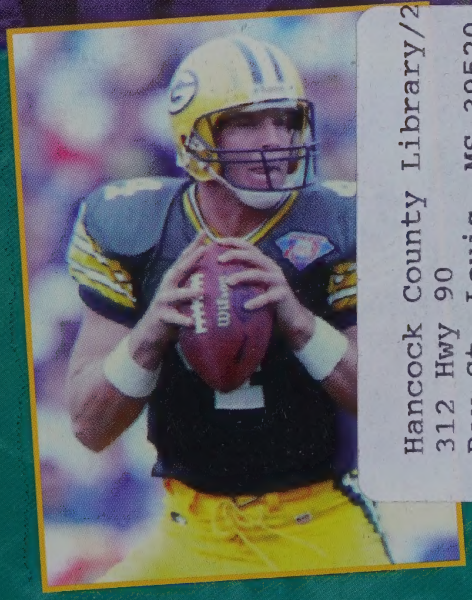
Mississippi Leaders in the NFL

Motor City Rhythm and Blues Electrifies Audiences

African-American Women Elected to Represent Citizens of Gulfport and Harrison County



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MISSISSIPPI Star

VOL.2 NO. 3 NOVEMBER 1997

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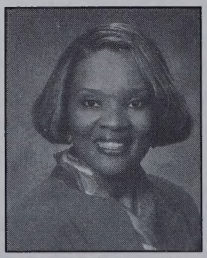
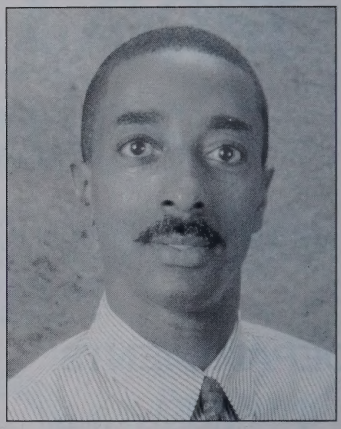
Frances Fredericks



Robin Alfred Midcalf, Esq.

PUBLISHER'S PAGE



Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

What makes a leader a leader?

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is without doubt the most dynamic leader of our lifetime. He was smart and articulate, charismatic and confident. And certainly, he stood for something; he had a cause and a purpose. He sacrificed much for the sake of millions of oppressed people.

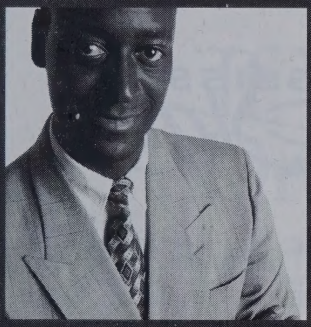
Each of us, at sometime or another, will find ourselves in a position of leadership. Regardless of whether it is as little league coach or captain, president of a church or civic organization, a tutor, a parent, an uncle or aunt, a neighbor or friend, someone may be looking to us for leadership. Leadership does not necessarily mean that our actions will impact the masses; most often the actions of a leader impact only a few, as in a family, a classroom or a small work group situation. Sometimes a single person may be the beneficiary of a leadership act.

My heroes have always been leaders. Men and women who took risks for the good of their social or geographic community, state or country have always made quite an impression on me. What is that common denominator(s) that we see in all leaders that sets them apart, that makes us take notice and follow?

Integrity? Conviction? Intelligence? I say all of the above and then some. Our great national leaders have possessed these characteristics and a variety of skills that magnetically attracted us as followers. Dr. King certainly possessed these characteristics as well as an abundance of skills. Additionally, he was a deeply religious man who was pastor of his church, which certainly enhanced his ability to relate to his followers.

The people who are featured on the following pages of this issue are leaders. Many of you either know them or know of them. You may have seen them on television or heard them expressing their opinions or positions on radio talk programs, or you've read about them in the newspapers. Some of them were elected to their positions of leadership; others emerged as leaders by example, maturity or both. Regardless of how they arrived at their positions of leadership, the impact of each of them is great.

My wish is that with the exposure of these local, regional and in some cases, potentially national leaders, all of our leadership stars will shine at least a little bit brighter. Be a good leader! MS



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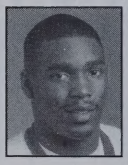
LETTERS

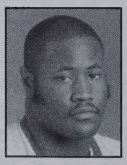
I received my first two issues of Mississippi Star and I have really enjoyed both of them. I have even let little Gene (7 years old) read some of the stories. Mississippi seems to have a lot going on. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Karen Mewborn
Simi Valley, California

The photographs of Buffalo Bills players Eric Moulds and Marlo Perry were not included in the October issue of Mississippi Star because of a delay in the mail system.



Eric Moulds #80
Wide receiver
6', 204 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
Mississippi State
Hometown: Lucedale, MS



Marlo Perry #58
Linebacker
6' 4", 250 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
Jackson State
Hometown: Forest, MS

Letters to the Publisher should be 100 words or less.
Star Calendar: Events of interest to South Mississippians should be submitted on your organization's letterhead, specifying the date, time, place of event and a number of contact. Submissions should be received by the twentieth day of the preceding month. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number. Mail submissions to *Mississippi Star*, P.O. Box 2651, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.

Mississippi Star reserves the right to refuse or decline to publish any submission.

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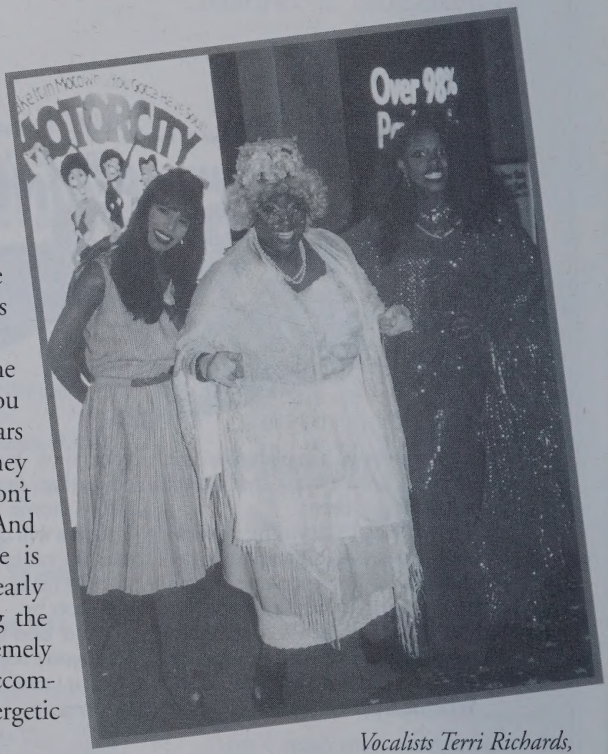
Motor City Rhythm & Blues

The currently running Rhythm and Blues musical Motor City Rhythm & Blues is a non-stop, energy-filled, incredibly entertaining show, the likes of which the Mississippi Gulf Coast has not seen before.

Motor City gives you the feeling you get when you take a ride on the Star Wars simulator ride at Disney World. It's intense! You don't know what to expect! And the Biloxi Grand Theatre is accoustically perfect, clearly projecting and supporting the musical sounds of an extremely talented cast of vocalists accompanied by an agile and energetic cast of dancers.



Vocalists Terri Richards, Shirell Ferguson and Tina Jennings

Producer Greg Thompson combines a familiar storyline with music from the fifties and sixties, along with songs from the seventies, eightees and ninetees to create an hour and twenty minute rhythm and blues musical journey that is rocking from beginning to end. New Orleans native Ben Bagby plays the lead character who has been rejected by music industry executives in Detroit because he doesn't have "enough soul.' He returns south via Gladys Knight and the Pips' Midnight Train to Georgia. to a grandmother who teaches him a few things about life, starting with Aretha Franklin's R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

Shirell Ferguson, Tina Jennings and Terri Richards all do superb jobs singing lead and background. They

perform several of Aretha's songs, The Pointer Sisters' Neutron Dance, a medley of Supremes songs - Can't Hurry Love, Where Did Our Love Go, Baby Love and Stop in the Name of Love and a number of other popular songs of the period.

Philadelphia-based rhythm and blues show group Chapter One also does an outstanding job of recreating the sounds of the fifties and sixties performing Yakety-Yak, Pride and Joy, Charlie Brown, Soul Man, and Papa Was a Rolling Stone. Certainly, one of the show's highlights is the group's performance of the Boyz To Men hit End of the Road. Chapter One members are Jimmie Williams, John H. Stone III, Primo Candelaria and Renardo Haynes.

The show's dancers are Debra Clark, Safiya Ricketts, Shawnte' Shaw of D'Iberville, Tricia Lilly, Toni Batiste, Loren Cross, Tim Adams and Mark Powers. Two of the show's highlights are the dancers performances to Charlie Brown in the first act and Bad Girls in the second act. They ar hot!

Ben Bagby involved in intense conversation with fan following show.

Tina Jennings signs autograph for one of many thrilled fans.

"It's a must-see show," said local radio personality Rip Daniels. "Actually, for all ages. It's inspiring. It's a show you can relate to. You see all these people performing their hearts out."

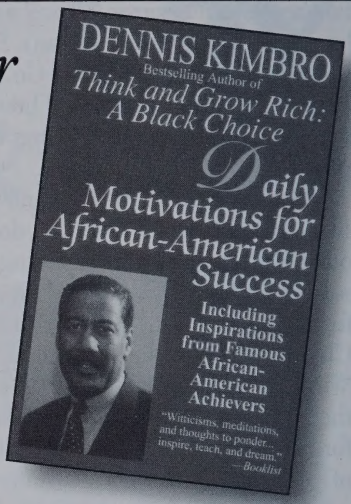
"It's a great show for the entire family - especially for the children," said entertainment promoter Shaar Soule'. "It shows the importance of never giving up on your dreams. His (Bagby) ultimate dream was to be a Motown singer, and he succeeded. He never stopped trying. He shined with the Motor City Rhythm and Blues Review."

Motor City Rhythm and Blues will be on stage at the Biloxi Grand Theatre until April 19. For information, call 1-800-WIN-2-WIN, ext. 2804.

Pictures Continued on Page 31...

BOOKS

Daily Motivations for African-American Success

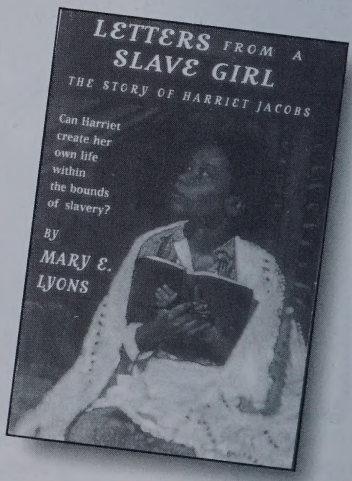

DENNIS KIMBRO
Bestselling Author of
Think and Grow Rich:
A Black Choice
Daily Motivations for African-American Success
Including Inspirations from Famous African-American Achievers
"Witticisms, meditations, and thoughts to ponder... inspire, teach, and dream."
—Booklist

Dennis Kimbro, *Author*

Daily Motivations for African-American Success (Ballantine Books, paperback, $5.99) is a collection of 366 inspiring and motivating statements for every day of the year, made by recognizable personalities, past and present, beginning January 1 with writer James Weldon Johnson and concluding December 31with the abolitionist Frederick Douglass. Each day has a theme, a quote by a familiar personality and a discussion of the theme by the author. The theme for November 27 (Thanksgiving Day 1997), for example, is Caution: Adverse Conditions. The motivational quote is given by Patricia Harris, former secretary of Housing and Urban Development. It reads as follows: "Character is what you have left when you've lost everything else."

Michael Jackson, Sojourner Truth, Earl G. Graves, Hank Aaron, Jesse Jackson and Stephanie Mills are some of the personalities who are quoted." Besides being a great idea and a fine piece of work, this is a great Christmas gift idea for family or friends. Dennis Kimbro is also the author of Think and Grow Rich: A Black Choice.

Letters from a Slave Girl


LETTERS FROM A SLAVE GIRL
THE STORY OF HARRIET JACOBS
Can Harriet create her own life within the bounds of slavery?
BY MARY E. LYONS

Mary E. Lyons *Author*

Letters From A Slave Girl (Aladdin Paperbacks, $3.95) is an enlightening and educational story of slave life during the early 1800s. Based on the real life experience of Harriet Ann Jacobs, Mary E. Lyons tells a story of hope through the eyes of a slave girl and the letters she writes to family. (Recommended for young readers.)

After 70 years, we all may see things in different ways, but not in a different light.

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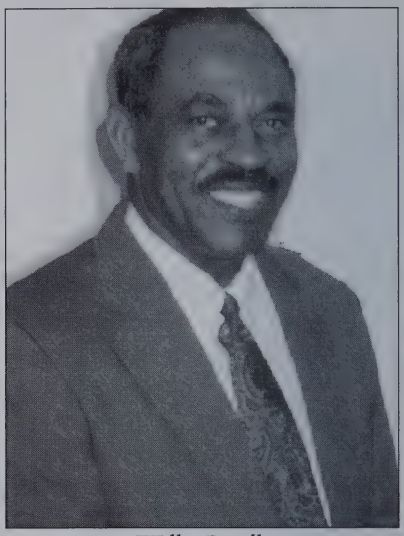

Willie Bradley

Willie Bradley, co-owner of B&W, Incorporated (Bradley and Watson) says that "necessity" was the motivation that prepared him for a second career that started twenty-one years ago. Now retired from the Bay-Waveland School District, Bradley and partner, George Watson of Pass Christian joined forces to form B & W, Inc. which has pumped approximately $2 million annually into Hancock, Harrison and Pearl River counties.

"My first teaching check was for $244.00 after deductions," Bradley recalled. "I knew I wouldn't be able to make it on that. I had some experience in the janitorial business: I had gone up to Cleveland (Ohio) one summer and worked for one of my cousins who had a janitorial business there. I learned the tricks of the trade such as shampooing carpets, making bid packages, estimating costs and bookkeeping."

So, beginning in 1961, to make ends meet, Bradley identified five local businesses in Bay St. Louis and convinced the owners to let him handle the janitorial responsibilities. Little did he know then that the second job would lead to bigger things that would employ approximately two hundred people over the years, some former students.

"We took over the contract at Stennis Space Center in 1976 and we maintained that contract for 21 years," Bradley explained. "In 1992, we were selected the NASA Minority Sub Contractor of the Year. Mr. Watson and I went to Washington, DC to receive the award. We also have the contract at Dupont, and I am presently serving as project manager there."

As a teacher and coach in the Bay-Waveland School District for twenty-seven years, Bradley influenced the lives of the boys and girls and men and

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Business Team Annie and Willie Bradley

women he came in contact with over the years. "Zeke" as he is affectionately called by his friends, has watched many of his former students and student-athletes develop into productive citizens, and being able to observe this is more rewarding than any of the many sports or business victories he accrued over his career.

"Every time I see one of those kids, they tell me about how the things I taught them was helpful to them finding their place in life," Bradley recalled. "They tell me that I didn't sugarcoat it.

"I had the ability to get real close to kids," he explained. "I had a real good rapport with them, and they trusted me.

"I was really proud of Robert Whavers because he was like an assistant coach on the field," he recalled one of his former students who played three sports under him. "He was so smart; and he has demonstrated that over the years with the establishment, management and success of Red Machine (traveling men's softball team that won Mississippi State Championship in 1995)."

Over the course of his twenty-seven years in education, Bradley coached football, basketball, track, softball, and little league baseball; and he was over the Recreation Department in Columbia, Mississippi so he would return to his hometown during the summer. One summer he brought a little league baseball team from Columbia down to Bay St. Louis which featured familiar brothers Edward Charles Payton and Walter Payton, the Hall of Fame running back with the Chicago Bears.

His greatest victory as a coach was ironically his last game as a head football coach nearly thirty years ago. It was a win over rival Randolph High of Pass Christian in the fall of 1968, a game in which Valena C. Jones won 14-13.

"We were down13-6 with two minutes left to play," Bradley vividly recalled. "We had the ball on our own twenty yard line. We systematically drove the ball down the field using down and out passes. With twelve seconds left to play, we called a timeout to discuss our next play. Sterling Bell gave a tremendous fake to Edward Whavers - who everybody in the stadium expected to be getting the ball - then rolled up in the line with him and turned, pulled up and hit Larry (Peters) by himself, wide open in the end zone. Larry scored the touchdown and Edward Whavers scored on the two-point conversion for the win."

Continued on page 30...

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What should I do?
Perform monthly self-examinations, and make sure your doctor gives you a breast examination once a year. Mammography can detect breast cancer up to two years before you or your doctor can feel a lump. So, once you turn 40, have a mammogram every year.

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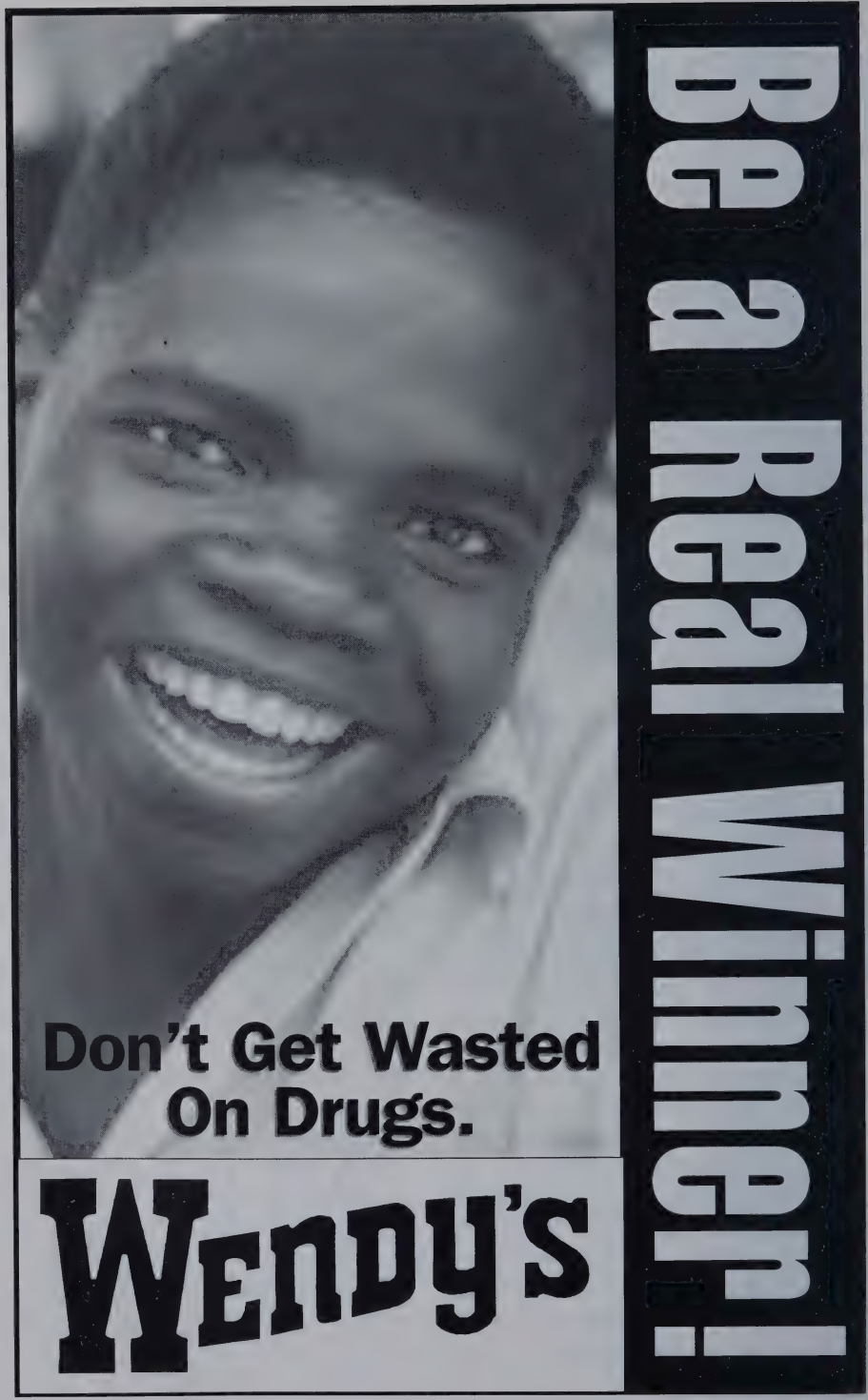
Be a Real Winner!
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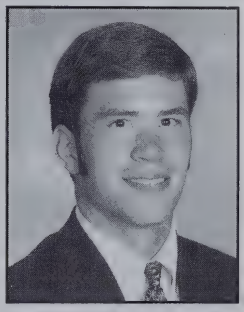
WENDY'S

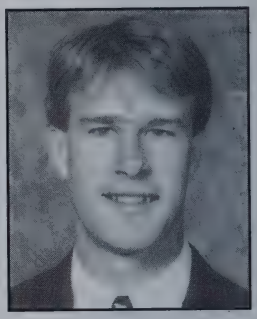
Leaders On COLLEGE CAMPUSES

Chris Shelby is the Student Government Association president at Delta State University in Cleveland. He is a senior pre-medicine major from Madison. He is a member of Order of Omega and Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society. He previously served as Government Affairs chairman of the SGA. He is the son of Mitchell and Sheryl Shelby. Chris' main goals are to increase student involvement, to lend support in all university activities, and to fairly represent every student at Delta State.

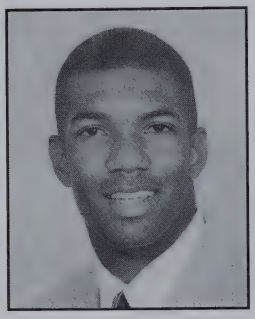


Georgette Crossman is SGA president at Alcorn State University in Lorman. She is a senior chemistry/pre-medicine major from Jamaica West Indies. Her campus involvements include memberships in in Alpha Kappa Mu Honors Society, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Honors Student Organization and Baptist Student Union. Her hobbies include swimming, traveling and reading poetry. Georgette is the daughter of Stivel and Pernell Crossman of Hanover, Jamaica West Indies.

Carlos Diallo Palmer is the president of the Student Government Association at Tougaloo College. An English/Political Science major, Carlos has maintained a 3.9 grade point average. He is president of Rho Epsilon chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., captain of Tougaloo's Honda Scholars Bowl Team and an advisor to the campus' NAACP. He aspires to earn a law degree and practice civil law, and to become involved in politics to work to improve his community. Carlos is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Palmer of Greenwood.



Brooks Moore is the Student Government Association president at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Enrolled in the University's Honors College, the senior psychology major has a 3.41 grade point average. He is a member or Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society and Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. Brooks plans to pursue graduate studies next fall in the area of higher education. He is the son of John and Launo Moore of Tickfaw, Louisiana.

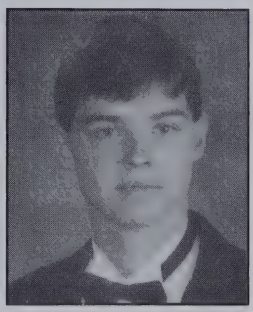


Adoris Sheldon Turner II of Indianola is President of Jackson State University's Student Government Association. A senior political science major, Turner is a member of the Dean's List, Pre-Law Society and has participated in the JSU "Sonic Boom of the South" Marching Band. He is the 1995-96 winner of the Geography Challenge Bowl Award and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. 1997 Mr. Debonair Pageant. He is a 1994 graduate of Gentry High School. Adoris is the son of Adoris and Nevonnia Turner of Indianola.

Darrin Flynn is executive president if the student council at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College - Jefferson Davis Campus in Gulfport. His major is aerospace engineering. He is chapter president of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and editor-in-chief of the J.D. Current, the campus newspaper. His hobbies include writing short stories, fishing and "web surfing." He is the son of Jerry and Tommie Flynn of Gulfport.

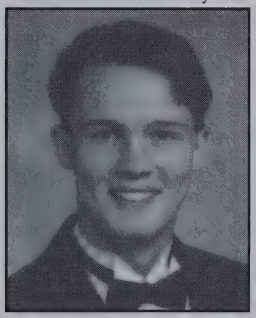
Le Crisha Peyton is serving her second term as the Student Government Association president at Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena. A senior elementary education major, Peyton is also the reigning Miss MVSU. She is active in Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society, the Mississippi Association of Educators and the National Association of Educators. Miss Peyton plays piano and sings for church and school events. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peyton of Monticello.

April Michelle Maddox is student government president at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville. A sophomore, April was elected president after a successrful and enjoyable experience as a SGA representative during her freshman year. She plays singles and doubles on the PRCC tennis team. April is the daughter of Sam and Kay Maddox of Magee.



The Student Government Association president at Jones County Junior College for the 1997-98 school year is **Jason Dedwylder.** Jason's major is Political Science, and he plans to continue his studies at Mississippi State University. He aspires to go into politics. He has been active in Phi Theta Kappa, Council on Drugs and Alcohol Abuse and the Political Science Club. The sophomore drum major has also represented his contituents as both freshman and sophomore class president at JCJC. Jason is the recipient of the Letter "J" Award and the Ellis ambirth Scholarship. He is the son of Daryl and Kathy Dedwylder.

Dustin James Polk is student government president at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jackson County Campus in Gautier. Dustin is a member of the Honors Program, Phi Theta Kappa and the Baptist Student Union. He is also president of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College tri-campus student council. He is employed as a lifeguard at the YMCA in Ocean Springs where he is also a volunteer in the YMCA Thanksgiving and Christmas toy projects. He is the assistant youth director at Heritage Baptist Church in Woolmarket. Dustin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Polk of St. Martin.



MS

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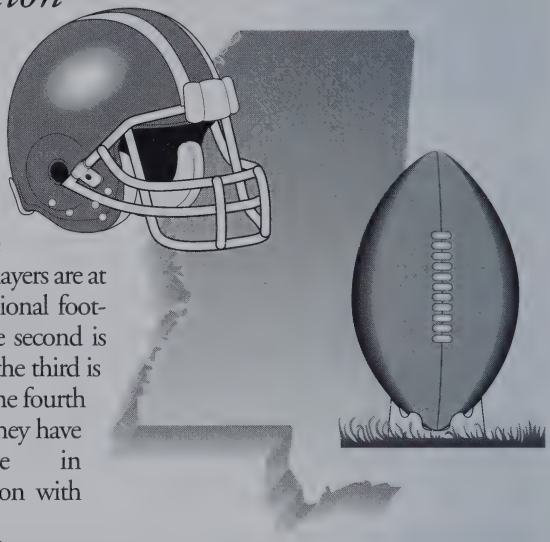
Mississippi Leaders in the National Football League

by Glenda Singleton



What do Walter Payton, Jerry Rice, Brett Favre and Steve McNair have in common? If your answer is that they are all football players in the NFL, you would be correct, but that would only be part of the story. These four players are at varying stages of their professional football careers: one is retired; the second is nearing the end of his career; the third is at the peak of his career; and the fourth is just beginning his career. They have a great deal more in common than their association with the NFL.

They all grew up in small towns in Mississippi; they all played high school and college football; they all have older brothers who played football; they have all overcome obstacles to attain the level of success that they have achieved in the NFL; they all have used their celebrity status to give back to their communities; they are all stars and role models; and they are all considered leaders.

Who is a leader and how is leadership defined?

Leadership has often been defined as a condition of being a leader. A leader is one who leads. In the NFL that can be explained in terms of achievements as well as by position, such as: Walter Payton is the all-time leader in rushing yards; Jerry Rice is the leading wide receiver in terms of receptions, touchdowns and receiving yards; Brett Favre led the Green Bay Packers to their first Super Bowl win in twenty-nine years; Steve McNair leads the transitioning Tennessee Oilers as the starting quarterback.

Walter Payton is retired from professional football and is a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Walter was born in Columbia, Mississippi on July 25, 1954. He started playing football during his junior year at Columbia High School. In his very first game he ran 60 yards for a touchdown. After high school he enrolled in Jackson State University, graduated in 1975, was selected as the first round draft pick of the Chicago Bears, and thus began the celebrated professional career of one of the best running backs

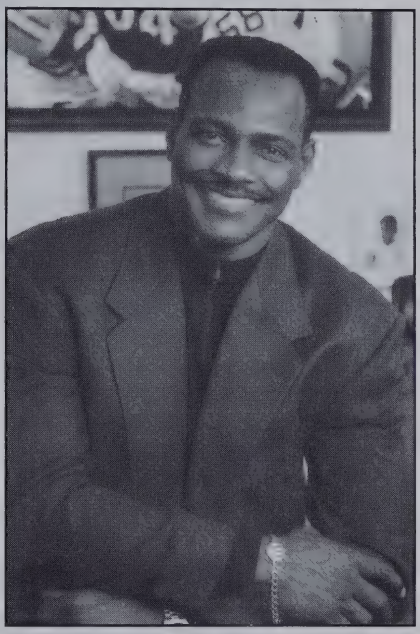
to ever put on a jersey.

The Chicago Bears organization is one of the oldest in the league; it has a great history. Walter had to overcome Chicago's less than enthusiastic reception; after all Walter Payton was no Gale Sayers. Walter won the fans over with his skills, his dedication, his commitment, his work ethic, and his desire to win. Chicago has always taken its sports heroes seriously, and Walter ranks among the elite in the history of the franchise.

His accomplishments are impressive: Payton ranks fourth in the NFL in terms of career touchdowns with 125, behind Jim Brown, Marcus Allen and Jerry Rice. He ranks number one in career rushing touchdowns with 110; he accumulated16,726 rushing yards. He missed only one game in thirteen NFL seasons.; he was named the league MVP twice; he went to the Pro Bowl nine times. The Bears did go to the Super Bowl once during Payton's tenure, allowing him to retire with a Super Bowl ring.

What made Payton a team leader? His coaches saw him as a complete player; he not only ran the ball; he returned punts, blocked, and he even played quarterback one game. He was an all around player who loved the game. His teammates saw him as a player who was committed to do what needed to be done for the team to walk off the field with a win. He was respected as a player and a man.

What is Walter doing now? He spends his time between Mississippi and the Chicago area. He is involved in several ventures including race car competition. He is also committed to working with community programs. At this time he is on a media tour for Bryan Foods' Food For Thought program, which is designed to encourage young people in the South



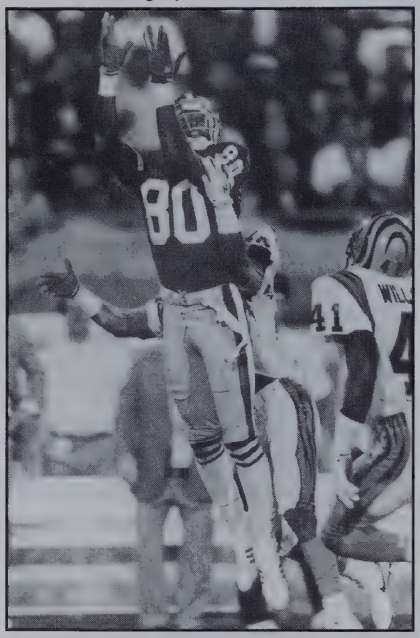
Pro Football Hall of Famer Walter Payton

to stay in school and get the best education they can. The program involves teachers, parents, students, and the business community. With this type of team effort and Walter as the spokesperson, it is sure to be a success.

Jerry Rice is the premier wide receiver in the National Football League. He was born October 13, 1962 in Starkville, Mississippi. He attended B.L. Moor High School in Crawford, Mississippi. After high school he attended Mississippi Valley State. He was the first round draft pick of the San Francisco 49ers, and walked into the limelight of football stardom and moved to one of the most cosmopolitan and diverse cities in the country.

Jerry's stats and achievements are unmatched in the annals of professional football. He was named NFC Rookie of the Year and in1989 was named Super

Bowl MVP. He has scored more touchdowns than any other receiver to ever play the game. He holds thirteen NFL records. He played in 189 consecutive



Eleven-time Pro Bowl selectee Jerry Rice

scheduled games. He has been invited to eleven Pro Bowls. He was selected as the NFL Player of the Year twice and Sports Illustrated Player of the Year four times.

Rice was injured during the first game of the 1997 season; and this was the first time an injury caused him to miss the next scheduled game. He has undergone surgery and is working hard in rehabilitation to rejoin the team in December. The experts are not quite sure he'll be back this season. Jerry, however, is optimistic that he will be back in time for the postseason.

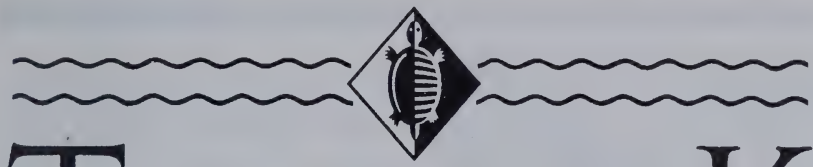
Jerry won the hearts of San Franciscans and his 49er teammates because he loves the game; because he works hard to stay conditioned to be the best that he can be; because he plays the game like no other wide receiver has ever played the game; because he has changed the role of wide receiver and made it his own; because he is such a problem for each opponent's defensive team; and because of his involvement in the community, he is an adopted son of the City by the Bay.

What does he do during the off-season besides prepare for the next season? Jerry is involved in a variety of activities including the Jerry Rice "127" Foundation, the United Negro College Fund, as well as support of both his high school and college in Mississippi. The "127" Foundation is dedicated to raising money for charities committed to helping children "be all that they can be."

Don't be too surprised to see Jerry back on the field for the postseason. His teammates expect it, and loyal 49er fans anticipate his return.

Brett Favre is the quarterback who helped bring the Pack back. Green Bay fans are the most dedicated, the most fun loving, the most enthusiastic, and the most committed fans to ever declare loyalty to a team. So when the Packers organization brought Brett Favre to Green Bay from Atlanta in 1992, they found a quarterback whose dedication, commitment, determination and enthusiasm for the game matched those of Packers fans. It was a marriage made for Lambeau Field.

Brett was born in Gulfport on October 10, 1969 and grew up in The Kiln. He played high school football at Hancock North Central High School with his father as his coach. He was recruited as the seventh string quarterback for the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Quickly he became starting



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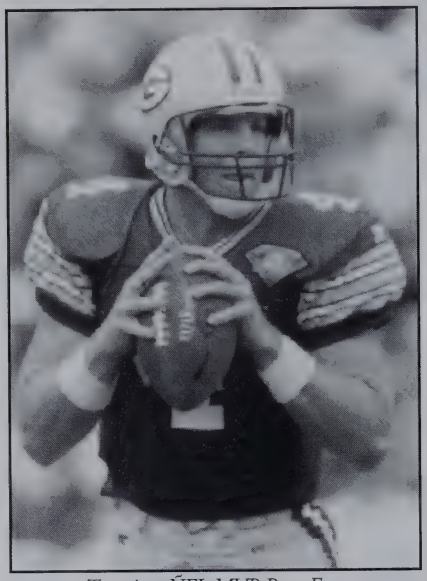

Two-time NFL MVP Brett Favre

quarterback and over the course of his collegiate career led the Golden Eagles to two bowl games.

Brett loves to play football; he plays with the enthusiasm and glee of a ten year old. He has had to overcome some personal challenges, but with the help of family and the Packers organization he has fought his way back to consecutive league MVP honors and an incredible season performance in 1996 which led to a Green Bay Super Bowl Championship.

Brett's stats and accomplishments are impressive; his potential is great. He is rated number 3 among quarterbacks with a current rating of 88.4, which favorable compares to Joe Montana's rating of 92.3 at the end of his career. Through game seven of this season Favre had passed for 20,411 yards which looks quite impressive beside the 24,718 yards Packers Hall of Famer Bart Starr threw for over a sixteen season career.

During the off-season, Brett is involved in golf and basketball. He is also involved in charities in the Milwaukee-Green Bay area and on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He started the Brett Favre FourWard program which raises money for the Boys and Girls Club and the American Cancer Society.

Steve McNair was born in Mount Olive Mississippi on February 14, 1973. After graduating from Mount Olive High School, McNair played four seasons at Alcorn State University, closing out his career with a 386-yard passing day in his only collegiate bowl game, completing 32 of 73 passes, two for touchdowns. He also ran 68 yards on 14 carries.

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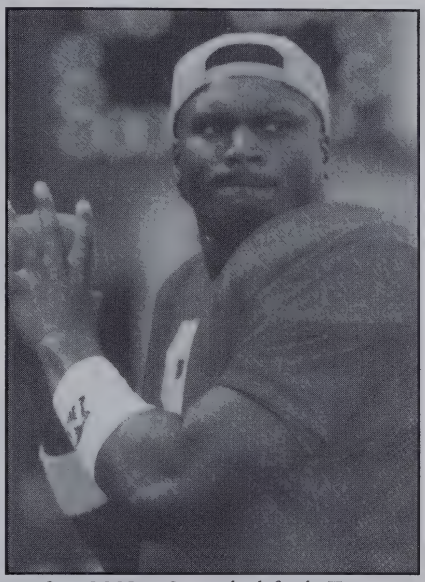
Steve was the recipient of the Walter Payton Award and the Eddie Robinson Trophy, and finished third in Heisman trophy votes. He holds all of Alcorn State's game and season passing records. The first round pick of the then Houston Oilers in 1995, Steve is now the starting quarterback for the Tennessee Oilers.

In his first two seasons McNair started a total of six games. This year he was named the starting quarterback. His self confidence is apparent and he is finding his stride; he throws, he runs, and he enjoys the game.

His stats are good for the season; his current quarterback rating (through game 8) was 75.8%. He completes a respectable 53.1% of his passes, and to date had thrown for 1394 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Steve is single and spends time between Nashville and Mount Olive. He has committed his support and name to the Police Athletic League in Nashville. He is just beginning to make a name for himself. Like the others profiled in this story, you can expect great plays and a very bright future for "Air McNair."

Each of these four individuals are leaders. They have a lot in common; they each have that something special that inspires others to go that proverbial extra mile; they have the ability to rally their teammates as well as their fans. They each worked very hard in preparation for their roles. They are very confident, self-motivated and driven to win. They each love the game. And, yes, they are native sons of Mississippi and are Mississippi Stars. MS



Steve McNair, Quarterback for the Tennessee Oilers and Recipient of the Walter Payton Award

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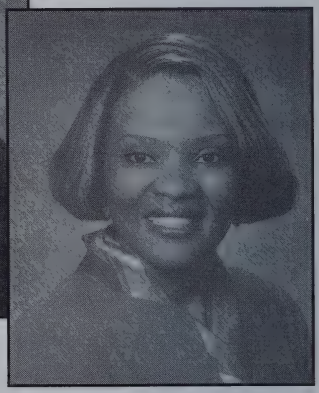
African-American Women Elected to Serve Citizens of Gulfport and Harrison County Discuss "Leadership"

by Felecia Dunn Burkes, Esq.

Aurebelle Caggins

Frances Fredericks



Robin Alfred Midcalf, Esq.

State Representative Frances Fredericks, Harrison County District Four Supervisor Robin Alfred Midcalf, Esq. and District Four Election Commissioner Mrs. Aurebelle Caggins participated in a survey/discussion on the issue of leadership. The questions and their responses follow brief biographies of the participants

Mrs. Aurabelle Caggins is election commissioner for District Four Harrison County. She is currently serving in the second year of her second term. In 1983, Mrs. Caggins retired from a forty-three year teaching career. She then became director of the National Council of Negro Women Daycare Center in Gulfport. She is the mother of five adult college graduates.

Frances Louise Manning Fredericks, a native Mississippian, graduated from George Washington Carver High School in Picayune, Mississippi. She received her diploma in nursing from St. Mary's School of Nursing in Kansas City, Missouri. She was married to the late Representative Isiah Fredericks, and is the mother of four children: Don, Yolanda, Isiah, Jr. and Alvin. She served

twenty years as a nurse at the Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center. On June 5, 1990, during the first primary of a special election, she won the House seat representing District 119, with 59 percent of the votes against three male candidates. She was sworn in on January 3, 1991. She was unopposed in her bid for re-election for the 1992 term. In 1993, Representative Fredericks won with 81 percent of the votes against one male opponent.

Robin Alfred Midcalf has been a practicing attorney in Harrison County, Mississippi for nine years. Robin has served on the Harrison County Board of Supervisors since 1993 and is presently serving a second term through the year 2000. She is a single (divorced) parent of one daughter, Ebony Nicole Midcalf. Ebony is a freshman at Mississippi State University in Starkville. Robin is a member of St. Therese's Catholic Church where she serves as Lector, Reader and Eucharistic Minister. She is co-founder and presently serves on the Board of Directors of the *Values + Education = Success Mentoring Program.* VES, Inc. was co-founded with Robert Boone of Casino America, Inc., which has partnered fourth-grade students with area professionals. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts – Gulf Pine Council. She enjoys speaking to youth and any involvement with youth or activities which benefit youth.

Please define "leadership"?

Caggins: Leadership is a word, term, power or how we feel when we win an office, get appointed to an office or just decide we want to become the person in charge. We are all leaders of something. Leadership encompasses dependability, devotion and an open mind to the developmental process of becoming a leader. A leader should be knowledgeable about what he or she is leading. In 1960, I was enrolled at Tuskegee University in a master degree program. One of my education courses included leadership information that I have found to be most helpful in every place of my leadership life. I have focused on the concepts that I received from that class. The concept is simple, "You must work with people not over people." Leadership in my interpretation means to work with people.

Midcalf: I will defer to the American Heritage Dictionary which defines leadership as: (1) The position, office or term of a leader. (2) A group of leaders. (3) The capacity to be a leader; ability to be a leader.

Although not asked, for clarity, *leader* needs to be defined and, according to my name source, leader is defined in part as follows: (1) a person who leads others along a way; a guide. (2) one in charge or in command of others. (3a) the head of a political party or organization. (3b) one who has an influential voice in politics.

Is there a distinction between the terms "politician" and "leader"? Please explain why you think there is or is not a distinction.

Fredericks: Yes, I think there is a distinction between the terms "politician" and "leader".

The politician is an elected official that is voted into his/her position by the people; and through a legislative process, makes policies and creates laws to govern a body

of people; while leaders usually have a superior knowledge of policies and laws, they are not elected. They may instruct, guide and lead a body of people.

Caggins: The term "politician" is an adjective to describe a certain kind of leader. This kind of leader is one who deals with the conscience and power. They still have to work with people.

Do you subscribe to the Jeffersonian model of leadership (leaders must carry out the will of their constituents) or the Hamiltonian model of leadership (leaders must govern according to the dictates of their principles and values) - please explain why you have chosen one model of leadership over the other?

Fredericks: It is very hard to choose one model of leadership out of the two stated, Jeffersonian or Hamiltonian. I feel a leader must always be willing to carry out the will of his constituents, but no one should lose their personal principles and values in the process of constituent's will. Some of the reasons you are chosen to legislate on behalf of others, are because of your principles and values; that is who you are. To work for your constituents is what they want. I feel that if one uses both the Jeffersonian and Hamitonian models of leadership together for the good of all, it would be a great asset.

Caggins: I don't agree with either in total concept. May need some of both to solve problems.

What, in your opinion, are the most critical qualifications one must must possess in order to be an effective leader?

Midcalf: The absolute most critical is to be fully informed before making a decision. I also find other good qualities to include recognizing one can accomplish anything if one is willing to let someone else take credit and, of course, it's not a bad quality to be able to say, "I don't know but I will find out."

Caggins: In my opinion, the most critical qualifications one must possess in order to be an effective leader are: (1) Be able to work with people; (2) Be knowledgeable about people and the subject matter or information that the leader will have to deal with in addition to other responsibilities that the leader will encounter; and (3) Be able to discipline one's self and assist others with self-esteem.

Please identify the one leader, past or present, whom you most admire and/or who has most influenced your leadership style? Explain why you have selected this individual as your role model.

Midcalf: Tip O'Neill is one of my most of my most admired former public servants/leaders because he possessed humility, compassion, as well as wisdom in his dedication to a life of public service. Gary Hymel, a former administrative assistant to Tip O'Neill, co-authored All Politics is Local. After having read the book and having known Mr. O'Neill via the media for his service in Congress and certainly as Speaker of the House, I found him to be most fascinating. There are, of course, others who I admire, but the question asks for one and again that is Mr. Tip O'Neill who died January, 1994.

Fredericks: The leader that I most admire and who influenced my leadership style was my mother Alice Manning of Picayune, Mississippi. She was as

steady as a rock, yet humble; compassionate, yet firm. Each day began with prayer. She taught God's greatest creation on earth was His people and to give each other love and respect. Her ability to stretch a dollar had no end. I never thought of her as a role model; she was just Mommy.

What do you consider the greatest single reward derived from a life committed to public service and conversely what do you consider the greatest drawback to public service?

Fredericks: The greatest single reward derived from a life committed to public service is the confidence your fellow man place in you to serve. There is no drawback; you always pray for the ability to give your best.

Midcalf: I think the happiest people are those who serve others and I found this out by accident not by design. But now that I know, I share the recipe with anyone who will listen. So simply stated, the greatest single reward is the happiness I get from my service to others.

The greatest drawback to public service for me as an elected official is FUND RAISING for the campaign. I absolutely abhor asking for or having others ask for contributions on my behalf. However, I can do it all day and night for a charity or other cause, but it is simply not something I look forward to doing on my own behalf.

Ella Holmes-Hines, Councilperson for Gulfport Ward 3 was not able to participate due to time constraints and scheduled projects.

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PEOPLE *continued from page 14...*

Bradley added that he has some very special memories of that game and that season. One is that it was fitting that Whavers scored the final points because he had rushed for more than 1500 yards that year. Pass Christian was undefeated going into this game, which was the last game of the season for both schools.

"We won that game with two defensive ends who weighed about 140 pounds each," Bradley explained. "It was also a special win because it was our last year at VCJ. The kids would all be at Bay High the following year."

Bradley has experienced many victories and an incredible amount of success in both careers. However, he is quick to point out that his success is not the result of a solo efforts.

"My high school coach had a tremendous influence on me," said Bradley whose father died when he was nine years old. "Murray Creshon was a referee and he saw that I had a tremendous interest in sports. I use to travel with him to the state tournaments and operate the clock. He was the reason I got a scholarship to Xavier.

"One day he gave me some shoes. I told him that I did not want those shoes because I wanted some shoes I had seen on television that were square-toe, kickers shoes. He chewed me out so good, and told me to get out of his office. He taught me that there were rules in life you had to follow."

The support of family members has also been critical to Bradley's early success in school. "What helped me was the discipline. My mother and grandmother provided a great deal of discipline.

"We had a close knit family," said Bradley. "All the kids would come to our house, smell the food and come in. Whatever we had was for everybody. I have always tried to carry that to the kids I've come in contact with. I have always tried to instill the feeling of oneness. In the huddle for basketball or football, we would always recite, 'All for one, one for all, God for us all.' I believe the kids still remember that.

"I really enjoyed coaching and teaching; it was something that I really and truly enjoyed. It was like a holiday for me. I remember vividly a parent asking me why I spent so much time with the kids who really didn't appreciate it. I responded to her that she might not appreciate the time I spent with the kids, but the kids genuinely appreciated it.

"Being a teacher and a coach fulfilled my boyhood dreams. I use to fantasize about being a player in a critical situation. I had visualized those situations. I had been there before. God gave me patience and understanding and a big heart. That was evident as a kid. My grandmother would smile and tell me: 'You would give your last pair of drawers to help somebody.'

"My wife (Annie) is the real pusher in the family," Bradley revealed. "I don't know where I would have been without her. She is the one who encouraged me to go back to school to get my masters and my specialist degree from Southern. Her typewriter kept the paperwork flowing. She is a good organizer. She believes in perfection.

"We started S&D Incorporated in 1980, named after our kids Shalon and Derek because we wanted something for our kids to have and to venture out on our own. My wife was instrumental in starting this corporation." MS

Motor City Rhythm & Blues

Continued from Page 9

Ben Bagby (center) with Chapter One (left to right) Jimmie Williams, John H. Stone III, Primo Candelaria and Renardo Haynes

Mark Powers and Safiya Ricketts take a moment to discuss show with fans.

Dancers (standing) Debra Clark, Safiya Ricketts, Shawnte' Shaw, Tricia Lilly and Toni Batiste. (Front row) Loren Cross, Tim Adams and Mark Powers

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BRIEFS

MPHS Women's Softball Team Headed for State Playoffs

Moss Point High School women's softball team finished 2nd in Division 7 and qualified for the state playoffs. The team includes students from Magnolia Junior High, Ed Mayo Junior High and Moss Point High School. "They are the greatest bunch of athletes I've been associated with," said Coach Brenda Lewis. "They made this year very exciting and very pleasurable." The Lady Tigers include (standing left-right) Shinetha Jackson, Coach Lewis, Assistant Coach Alton Joseph, Jatimah Johnson, Vashti Meeks, Chastity Crowley, Tekisha Meeks, Janie Lawrence, Jennifer Brown, Ashley McCorvey, Christen Seal, (center row) Jaime Bosarge, Tiffany Seales, Keva Cannon, Amber Clark, Stephanie Wilson, Kenya Smith, Candace Bailey, Holly Turner, (front row) Kerry Long, Monique Cowan, Pam Stewart and Ladrena Larry.

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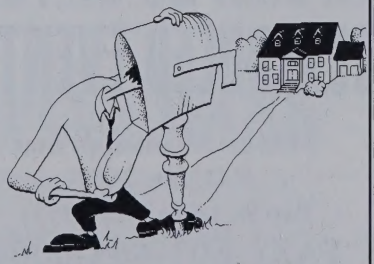

Calendar

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November 21
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Banquet
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Downtown
Jackson, MS
Speaker:
Mayor Harvey Johnson
7:00 p.m.

November 22
Capital City Classic
Alcorn State/Jackson State
Memorial Stadium
Jackson, MS
1:00 p.m.

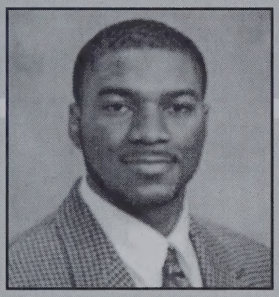
November 25
Culinary Arts Academy
Luncheon
USM Gulf Coast
Conference Center
Cafeteria
Beginning at Noon
Cost: $5.00
(24-hour reservation
required)
Information: 867-8783

November 29
Bayou Classic
Football Game
Southern/Grambling
New Orleans
Superdome
3:00 p.m.

INFORM US OF YOUR SCHEDULED EVENTS!

MAIL: Mississippi Star
P.O. Box 2651
Bay St. Louis, MS 39521
FAX: 601-463-0004

We Put People First On And Off The Field

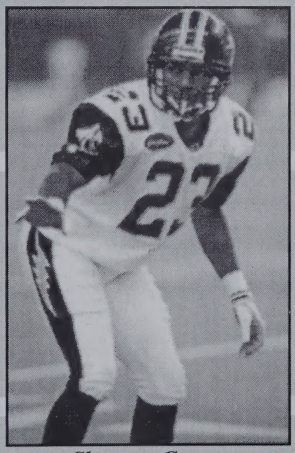


Shannon Garrett
Loan Officer
The People's Bank

Six months out of the year Shannon Garrett is a loan officer at our Gulfport Branch. The other six months he is a defensive back for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

At the Peoples Bank, we have been putting people first for 100 years. In Shannon's case that means holding his job for him while he plays football in Canada each year.

The next time you're in our Gulfport Branch, be sure to say hi to Shannon and wish him luck in the upcoming season!



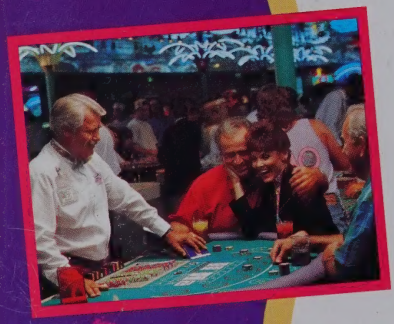
Shannon Garrett
Defensive Back
Winnipeg Blue Bombers

THE PEOPLES BANK
MEMBER FDIC

Where People Come First

(601) 435-5511 864-2252 467-9296

Casino America Brings The Caribbean To The South!



Isle of Capri® Casino Crowne Plaza® Resort Biloxi, MS

- Caribbean-style resort hotel with 370 oversized rooms – all with magnificent views of the Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Non-stop casino excitement
- Three restaurants/Free live entertainment
- Health club, outdoor pool, sun deck and massage therapist
- For reservations, call 1-800-THE ISLE

Isle of Capri® Casino & RV Park Vicksburg, MS

- Hot casino action 24 hours a day
- Festive tropical atmosphere
- Two restaurants
- New RV park features 65 deluxe pull-throughs, showers, laundry facilities, pool, whirlpool and free breakfast
- For reservations, call 1-800-WIN ISLE

Isle of Capri® Casino

Biloxi, MS • Vicksburg, MS
Bossier City, LA • Lake Charles, LA

For more information, call **1-800-THE ISLE**
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